

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office CHICAGO	Office of Origin LAS VEGAS	Date 7/19/61	Investigative Period 7/11 - 18/61
TITLE OF CASE ARTHUR JAMES BALLETTI; UNKNOWN SUBJECT, aka J. W. Harrison		Report made by [REDACTED]	Typed By: kzh
		CHARACTER OF CASE UPUC	

REFERENCES: Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 6/28/61, at Chicago.
Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 6/30/61, at Los Angeles.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE

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1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
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COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

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Report of:
Date:SA [REDACTED]
7/19/61

Office: Chicago

Field Office File No.:

139-105

Bureau File No.: 139-1201

Title:

ARTHUR JAMES BALLETTI;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT, aka
J. W. Harrison

Character:

UNAUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OR USE
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Synopsis:

SAMUEL M. GIANCANA interviewed at O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, 7/12/61, by Bureau Agents and refused to make any comment regarding ROBERT MAHEU and refused to admit that he was acquainted with DAN ROWAN stating that he had no comment.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 18, 1961

SAMUEL M. GIANCANA was interviewed at the O'Hare International Airport, commencing at 7:10 p.m. as he departed from American Airlines Flight 66, arriving from Phoenix, Arizona. **GIANCANA** was a passenger on this flight under the name of **MOONEY CECOLA**.

GIANCANA was approached by the Bureau Agents as he departed from the Airline. He brushed off the attempts of the Agents to identify themselves and stated that he was well aware of the fact that the Agents were representatives of the FBI. He stated that he had absolutely nothing to say to the Agents. From the very outset and throughout the interview, **GIANCANA** was alternately obscene, abusive, and sarcastic. At no time did he exhibit a friendly or cooperative attitude.

He asked relative to the reason for the interview and at this point was questioned concerning his knowledge of the wire tapping of the hotel room of **DAN ROWAN** in Las Vegas. **GIANCANA** replied that he had absolutely no comment and had absolutely nothing to say. He refused to admit that he is acquainted with the identity of **ROWAN** and repeatedly refused any comment concerning that situation. When asked whether he was acquainted with **ROBERT MAHEU**, **GIANCANA** very belligerently refused to make any comment or to indicate in any manner that he was aware of the identity of **MAHEU**.

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GIANCANA became very abusive and obscene and very heatedly advised that he was well aware of the FBI's investigations of him. He stated that he is aware of the identity of SA [REDACTED] and aware of the fact that SA [REDACTED] has talked to numerous girlfriends, relatives, and other associates of his.

At this point, **GIANCANA** requested the Agents to move away from him and leave him alone. It was pointed out to him that he was in the public waiting room of American Airlines and that the Agents had every right to be situated where they were. It was pointed out to **GIANCANA** that he was not under arrest and that the FBI had no interest in detaining him. It was made clear to him that he had every opportunity to leave his present location and that the FBI had absolutely

On 7/12/61 at O'Hare Airport
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b7c by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Date dictated 7/13/61
jmb

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no objections to his reboarding his airplane en route to New York. It was pointed out to him that as far as the Agents were concerned there was absolutely no reason for his presence in Chicago and there was no objection to his leaving without plans to return. U

At this point in the conversation, GIANCANA created a disturbance by accusing passengers who had disembarked from American Airlines Flight 66 of being FBI Agents. U

b7c At this point, GIANCANA requested the identity of SA [REDACTED] and when told, advised he was well aware of SA [REDACTED] identity. When it was pointed out to him that this seemed to be unusual since SA [REDACTED] has been in no way concerned with any investigation of GIANCANA, GIANCANA replied that he was aware of this and was also aware of the individuals whom SA [REDACTED] has been investigating. He also advised that he is aware of the fact that SA [REDACTED] is a "member of the Bar." U

At this point, GIANCANA became very curious concerning PHYLISS MC GUIRE. He attempted to locate her but was unable to do so. He thereupon became very abusive and obscene, commenting that it is a sad situation when the government interferes with the normal relationship between a man and his girlfriend. He accused the Agents of taking Miss MC GUIRE away from him without her consent. He was advised that Miss MC GUIRE made absolutely no objection to leaving him and conversing with other Agents. U

At this point, GIANCANA asked the Agents if they had ascertained how many men he had killed. GIANCANA was asked if he could furnish the Agents information in that regard and said that he could not remember; however, he thought he might have to be responsible for a killing shortly, looking at the Agents while making the remark. He was asked if that remark was a threat to the Agents and denied making any threats and said that it was not a threat. U

b7c GIANCANA referred again to investigations being conducted regarding his activities and made a remark "my sister-in-law told me all about you [REDACTED] and about the threats

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which you made if she refused to furnish information. She also told me that you told her that "F had killed 13 men." The Agent emphatically denied the above remark by GIANCANA and asked him if he was referring to an interview conducted of Mrs. ROSE FLOOD, a sister-in-law of GIANCANA. GIANCANA shrugged his shoulders and merely replied "don't worry, I have it all down in writing." \

At that point, GIANCANA then represented his ticket, and announced in a loud voice in the presence of everyone in the waiting room of American Airlines that he was "going to get the hell out of here and go to Cuba." GIANCANA thereupon reboarded American Airlines Flight 66 en route to New York City. \

After approximately five minutes, when it apparently became obvious to GIANCANA that Miss MC GUIRE was not aboard the airline and apparently did not intend to board, GIANCANA again disembarked from the airline. He approached the Agents, again in the waiting room of American Airlines and in a loud voice again became very abusive and obscene concerning his inconveniences and the fact that Miss MC GUIRE had separated herself from him. He stated that the United States Government had lost all its fineness and that "American citizens might as well be in Russia" due to the treatment which he was receiving. It was again pointed out to GIANCANA that the Agents had no desire that he remain in Chicago and would be very happy if he remained on Flight 66 en route to New York City. It was again pointed out to him that he was not under arrest and the FBI had no interest in detaining him and he was free to come and go as he pleased. \

GIANCANA again remarked "This country is getting just like Russia where a man is not free to escort a young lady where he pleases. Why don't you investigate these dope fiends." He was asked if that remark implied that he had information relating to narcotics and his reply to that question was "Why aren't you investigating the Communists." GIANCANA was asked if he was dissatisfied with this country and replied I love this country and I would sacrifice my life for it. He said "I proved this not long ago." He was asked to clarify the last remark and he refused to comment. \

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GIANCANA then sarcastically asked the Agents if they had found out that he owned 25 per cent of Marshall Fields, 20 per cent of Carsons, and 20 per cent of Goldblatts Department store to which the Agents asked if this were a statement on his part and he replied "Yes, I own all of these places" again in a sarcastic manner. He was asked if he had any interest in Las Vegas, Nevada, and he stated that "I own 99 per cent of Las Vegas." GIANCANA then sneeringly asked what the Agents desired to know and invited a question about his activities. The question then put to him was if he would confirm the allegations that he was the head of organized criminal activity in Chicago. He replied I'm not the head of anything and I don't know what you are talking about. After making this remark, GIANCANA uttered a few more obscenities. U

GIANCANA then stated "If you want to talk to me give me a subpoena and I will appear before the Grand Jury and answer any and every question put to me." He was asked if he meant by this that he would answer every question truthfully or if this meant that he would stand on his Constitutional guarantee of the 5th Amendment. He replied "that all depends on the question." U

GIANCANA advised the Agents that he was aware of the fact that the FBI would make every attempt to "frame" him into the penitentiary, at which point the Agents advised GIANCANA the FBI conducts its investigations on an impersonal, unbiased manner and that the history of this organization is not that of "framing" anyone and this is certainly not the intention or the purpose of this investigation. GIANCANA then referred to his prison sentences, stating "If I go to the penitentiary this time, I'll go like a man just like I did the other time and you know what I'm talking about." The Agents stated that they did not know what he was talking about and he replied "I went like a man then even though I was a victim of circumstances." He was asked how he was a victim of circumstances in the instances where he had been given jail terms and he refused to comment further about how he was victimized. U

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GIANCANA was asked if he was acquainted with JOHN D'ARCO, an Alderman of the First Ward of Chicago. At this point, GIANCANA said whose D'ARCO. It was pointed out to GIANCANA that Mr. D'ARCO had commented at one time recently that he was acquainted with Mr. GIANCANA and knew him well. At that point, GIANCANA directed an obscene remark to Mr. D'ARCO and requested the Agents to pass on the obscenity to Mr. D'ARCO. He was asked if he knew MURRAY HUMPHREYS and he stated he did not know MURRAY HUMPHREYS. He was asked if he knew GUS ALEX and he replied "No, I don't know GUS ALEX. Do you think I know everyone in the world." U

GIANCANA then indicated that he was aware that the Agents intended to report the results of this interview of him to their "boss", who in turn would report the results to their "super boss", who would thereupon report to his "super super boss". He was asked to whom he was referring to as "boss", "super boss", and "super super boss" and he said "you know who I mean, I mean the KENNEDYs." He then said "I know all about the KENNEDYs and PHYLISS (MC GUIRE) knows a lot more about the KENNEDYs and one of these days we are going to tell all." When asked for clarification of his comments in this regard, GIANCANA uttered an obscenity and refused further comment. U

GIANCANA then made a reference to ADALI STEVENSON and vaguely criticized his conduct in office and the manner in which he has involved the United States in the Cuban situation. When asked for clarification in this regard, GIANCANA stated that he has knowledge that STEVENSON directed "that mess in Cuba" and stated that STEVENSON is a "book worm" who has no common sense. U

GIANCANA then advised that the United States Government is not as smart as it would like to think it is. He stated that he knows that the United States Government made a deal with FIDEL CASTRO during the BATISTA Regime to furnish support to CASTRO and assist him in his ascent to power in Cuba on the condition that when CASTRO came into power he would eliminate gambling in Cuba. GIANCANA stated "now that deal has boomeranged on you, hasn't it." When it was mentioned to GIANCANA that at least one good affect of the

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above situation might have taken place in that his interest in Cuba were destroyed, GIANCANA then became very emotional and abusive and commented that he had never been in Cuba and had no interest in Cuba. When asked whether the individuals who ran gambling in Cuba during the BATISTA Regime were subordinates, GIANCANA refused to comment. He also refused to identify [REDACTED] as an associate of his.

At this point, GIANCANA advised that it is his firm belief that he is being "persecuted" due to the fact that he is a member of the Italian nationality. When it was pointed out to him that the investigations by the FBI of MURRAY HUMPHREYS and GUS ALEX have been pursued just as vigorously as the investigation of him and that HUMPHREYS and ALEX are not Italians, GIANCANA then uttered a string of obscenities and indicated that by far the majority of the individuals investigated by the United States Government were of Italian descent. He pointed out that it was his opinion that the FBI "not only prosecutes but persecutes Italians." When asked for specifics concerning what he intended to indicate by this comment, GIANCANA again referred to the fact that he was not being allowed to associate with his girlfriends in a normal fashion. It was pointed out to GIANCANA again that Miss MC GUIRE accompanied other Agents for a purpose of interview entirely under her own volition.

On more than one occasion during the interview, GIANCANA advised that he did not intend to "take this thing sitting down." He very heatedly stated: "I'm going to light a fire under you guys and don't forget that." When asked for clarification of his comments, GIANCANA refused any further comment. When asked how he enjoyed his recent visit to Florida, GIANCANA very sarcastically said "yew, I have been in Florida and I own the Fountainbleau, The Americana, and The Diplomat." When asked whether it was true that he owned the Eden Roc, GIANCANA sarcastically affirmed the Eden Roc also.

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When requested whether he would desire that the Agents telephonically contact one BUTCH BLASI in order to provide him transportation from the airport, GIANCANA replied "yes, call Butch and tell him to bring two shotguns with him." When asked whether he intended that remark as a threat to the Agents, GIANCANA replied that he did not. U

GIANCANA facetiously referred to the fact that in Russia if you commit a crime they merely shoot you rather than send you to prison. His next comment was that "I think I will kill myself. Why don't you give me a pistol so I can do this?" GIANCANA made remarks throughout the interview to the effect that he was going to kill himself. Regarding his general health, GIANCANA remarked that he "had a cancer"; however, he did not elaborate on this and stated "if you want to find out any more about my health, see my doctor." When asked as to the identity of the doctor, he refused to disclose his identity. U

On frequent intervals during the conversation with GIANCANA, it was pointed out to him that he was not under arrest and that the FBI had no intention of detaining him. It was pointed out to him that the FBI did not desire to harass him or any of his associates and that he was entirely free to leave the area at his desire. It was also pointed out to him that he was under absolutely no obligation to converse with the Agents and that his Constitutional privileges were fully guaranteed. U

GIANCANA frequently during the conversation proclaimed in a loud voice scattered with obscenities "get away from me you (obscene) and quit bothering me. I don't want to talk to you." At each such instance, it was pointed out to GIANCANA that he was free to leave at any time, that he was in a public place and that he was not by any means being detained. U

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The conversation was terminated upon the appearance of Miss PHYLISS MC GUIRE whom GIANCANA had previously referred to during the conversation as "the Mrs." He was asked if he was married to Miss MC GUIRE and he said sarcastically "I married her a long time ago." Upon Miss MC GUIRE's appearance, GIANCANA stated to her in a loud and clear voice "Why didn't you tell them to go to hell like I did." GIANCANA, accompanied by Miss MC GUIRE, then left the interviewing Agents. u